The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An echo cancelling system for cancelling echoes in a communication path comprising:

an echo locator coupled to said communication path to locate ~~the~~ positions of echo signals in a signal time window received from said communication path, said echo locator including a first adaptive filter generating a transfer function approximating that of said communication path; and

an echo canceller coupled to said communication path to cancel echo signals received there from, said echo canceller ~~becoming active in regions corresponding to the positions of echo signals in response to said echo locator~~ including a second adaptive filter having selectable filter coefficients, wherein peaks in said transfer function are used by said echo locator to generate output signals to activate selected filter coefficients of said second adaptive filter corresponding to the positions of echo signals in said signal time window received from said communication path, said output signals having magnitudes proportional to the magnitudes of said peaks.

2. Cancelled

3. (Currently Amended) An echo cancelling system as defined in Claim [2] 1 wherein said ~~echo locator includes a second adaptive filter generating~~ transfer function is an aliased transfer function ~~approximating that of said communication path, peaks in said transfer function being used by said echo locator to active said selected filter coefficients~~.

4. Cancelled

5. (Currently Amended) An echo cancelling system as defined in Claim [4] 1 wherein said first and second adaptive filters are LMS adaptive filters.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of cancelling echoes in a communication path comprising the steps:

locating the positions of echo signals in <u>a signal time window in said</u> <u>communication path and generating a transfer function approximating that of</u> said communication path; ~~and~~

determining the peaks in said transfer function and generating output signals having magnitudes proportional to the magnitudes of said peaks; and

activating an echo canceller only in regions <u>of said signal time window</u> corresponding to the positions of the echo signals <u>in response to said output signals</u> thereby to cancel echoes in said communication path.

7.   Cancelled

8.   Cancelled

9.   Cancelled

10.   Cancelled

11. (New)   An echo cancelling system for cancelling echoes in a communication path, comprising:

an echo locator connected to said communication path and operable to downsample reference signals transmitted to the communication path and return signals received from the communication path, said echo locator including a first adaptive filter operable to generate a transfer function approximating said communication path from said downsampled reference and return signals and generate output signals corresponding to peaks in said transfer function, the magnitudes of said output signals being dependent on the magnitudes of said peaks; and

an echo canceller connected to said communication path and having a second adaptive filter including selectable filter coefficients allowing said echo canceller to be activated in selected regions corresponding to the positions of echoes in a signal time window, said echo canceller being responsive to said output signals and activating selected filter coefficients thereby to cancel said echoes.

12. (New)   An echo cancelling system as defined in Claim 11, wherein said first adaptive filter employs a LMS method to generate said transfer function.

13. (New)   An echo cancelling system as defined in Claim 11, wherein said second adaptive filter is an LMS filter.

14. (New)   An echo cancelling system as defined in Claim 11, wherein said transfer function is an aliased transfer function.